

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

-- The invention relates to a A method and a device for detecting the degree of pollution in an operational converter are disclosed. According to the invention, the operating condition An operating state of at least one of the converter components that is exposed to the ambient air is determined and a corresponding operating condition state of said component in an unpolluted state is determined. The two operating conditions states are then compared and the calculated comparison value is used as a measurement for the degree of pollution of the converter. The inventive method for detecting Detecting the degree of pollution of an operational converter permits a reduction of in the number of breakdowns as a result of a non-protected operating mode caused by unprotected operation of a converter, and of the associated disadvantages such as costs and damage to a company's image. --